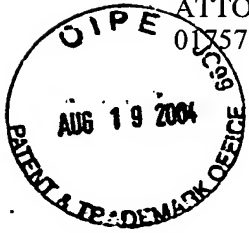


8-20-04

IFW

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.  
017575.0883 (TAMUS 1603/1571)

PATENT APPLICATION  
10/698,199



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: HOLTZAPPLE, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/698,199  
Filing Date: October 31, 2003  
Group Art Unit: 1744  
Confirmation No.: 9996  
Examiner: William H. Beisner  
Title: **METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PRETREATMENT  
AND PROCESSING OF BIOMASS**

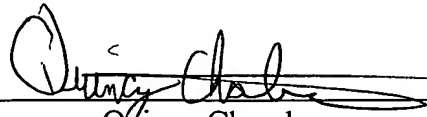
**Mail Stop AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL**

I hereby certify that the attached Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (11 pages), a copy of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (2 pages), a Baker Botts return acknowledgement postcard (1 card), and this Certificate of Mailing (1 page), are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on this 19th day of August, 2004 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

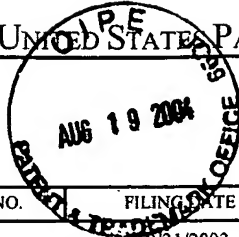
  
Quincy Chambers

EXPRESS MAIL RECEIPT  
No. EV 324640032 US  
Attorney Docket No.: 017575.0883 (TAMUS 1603/1571)

EV324640032US



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



DOCKETED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/698,199	10/31/2003	Mark T. Holtzapple	017575.0883 (TAMUS 1603/1	9996
5073	7590	08/12/2004	EXAMINER	
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. 2001 ROSS AVENUE SUITE 600 DALLAS, TX 75201-2980			BEISNER, WILLIAM H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1744	

*Response to Non-Compliant  
Amendment due:  
September 12, 2004*

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2004

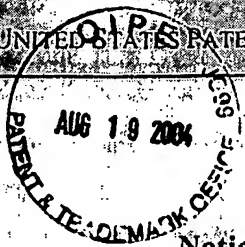
*No extensions available*

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Docket ☒ Wrapper ☒  
RVF Docketed ☒  
Reference(s) N/A



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



10698199

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
P.O. Box 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

## Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)

The amendment document filed on 10-31-3 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required. Only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire "Amendments to the claims" section of applicant's amendment document must be re-submitted. 37 CFR 1.121(h).

## THE FOLLOWING CHECKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☐ 1. Amendments to the specification:
- ☐ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
  - ☐ B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
  - ☐ C. Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
- ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
  - ☐ B. Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ 4. Amendments to the claims:
- ☐ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
  - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
  - ☒ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following 7 status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Withdrawn), (Previously presented), (New) and (Not entered).
  - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
  - ☐ E. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP Sec. 714 and the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/officeflyer.pdf>.

If the non-compliant amendment is a **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**, applicant is given **ONE MONTH** from the mail date of this letter to supply the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121. Failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.121 will result in non-entry of the preliminary amendment and examination on the merits will commence without consideration of the proposed changes in the preliminary amendment(s). This notice is not an action under 35 U.S.C. 132, and this **ONE MONTH** time limit is not extendable.

If the non-compliant amendment is a reply to a **NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION** (including a submission for an RCE), and since the amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to be a reply (37 CFR 1.135(c)), applicant is given a **TIME PERIOD** of **ONE MONTH** from the mailing of this notice within which to re-submit the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD ARE AVAILABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

If the amendment is a reply to a **FINAL REJECTION**, this form may be an attachment to an Advisory Action. The period for response to a final rejection continues to run from the date set in the final rejection, and is not affected by the non-compliant status of the amendment.

Annie C. Sengle  
Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE)

571-272-1049  
Telephone No.